

Conjugation present tense regular verb prena

A very large number of Cornish verbs end in –a and most of those are regular. It is therefore very useful to know the conjugation of the verb so here, as an example is the verb prena

prenav	My a bren	<i>I buy</i>
prenydh	Ty a bren	<i>You buy</i>
pren	Ev a bren	<i>He buys</i>
pren	Hi a bren	<i>She buys</i>
prenyn	Ni a bren	<i>We buy</i>
prenowgh	Hwi a bren	<i>You buy</i>
prekons	I a bren	<i>They buy</i>

The commonest usage is the second column, but it may only be used in a positive statement.

The first column is the answer yes to questions. If you want to answer no you will need to put na in front and mutate: na brenav

Remember it is very common to use gul.

Positive statements:

My a bren my a wra prena y prenav

All these mean ‘I buy’, the first two are the usual ways, the third is very formal and literary. Similarly with the other persons

Ty a bren ty a wra prena y prenydh

Negative statements:

Ny wrav prena ny brenav

Both of these mean I don’t buy, the first is very common

Interrogative:

A wrav prena? A brenav?

Do I buy? Again the first is more common, especially in speech.

Negative interrogative:

A ny wrav prena? A ny brenav?

Don’t I buy? You will hear the first more often than the second.

Exercise 1 Translate in three ways

Example: *we buy* ni a bren, ni a wra prena, y prenyn.

1 I buy	6 we write
2 I love	7 you (pl) decorate (afina)
3 you (s) promise (ambosa)	8 they sell
4 he promises	9 you (pl) buy
5 we sell (gwertha)	10 she buys

Conversation

****Exercise 2** Complete the conversation

You are in the street and are lost. You are trying to find your way to the station. You see a police(wo)man and ask him/her for directions.

a-barth kledh *on the left*
dhe benn an fordh na *at the end of that road*
pell *far*
war droos *on foot*
savla kyttrin *bus stop*

- *Police(wo)man: Dydh da. A allav vy dha weres?*
- *You: Ask the way to the station.*
- *Police(wo)man: “Kemmer an nessa fordh a-barth kledh. Yma’n gorsav dhe benn an fordh na.”*
- *You: Ask if it is far away.*
- *Police(wo)man: “Pymthek mynysen war droos.”*
- *You: Ask if there is a bus you can catch to get there.*
- *Police(wo)man: “Eus, yma kyttrin – kemmer an niver 8”*
- *You: Ask where the bus-stop is.*
- *Police(wo)man: “Omma! Ottomma an savla kyttrin!”*

Exercise 3 Write 50 – 100 words in **Cornish** *Ow skol (My school)*